

## Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EUR-12

/030 W

----- 046457

R 281540Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4933

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1867

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, AG

SUBJECT: CHERIF BELKACEM RETURNS

1. KNOWLEDGEABLE RESIDENT AMERICAN SAW CHERIF BELKACEM, FORMER MEMBER OF REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL, AT HOME LOCAL LAWYER EVENING JULY 25. SHE SAID BELKACEM, WHO HAD RECENTLY ACQUIRED NEW, ALGERIAN WIFE, WAS DRINKING HEAVILY AND WAS BEING ADDRESSED BY FORMER ASSOCIATES PRESENT AS MR. JEMAL.

2. COMMENT: BELKACEM'S LAST PUBLIC APPEARANCE WAS AT 20TH ANNIVERSARY PARADE ON NOVEMBER 1, 1974. HE DISAPPEARED FROM LOCAL SCENE SEVERAL MONTHS LATER AND WAS GENERALLY THOUGHT TO BE IN FRANCE. WE DO NOT KNOW HOW LONG HE HAS BEEN BACK, ALTHOUGH SUSPECT HE IS RECENT ARRIVAL. HE TOLD OUR SOURCE HE WAS HERE AS A TOURIST. IF THAT IS IN FACT THE CASE AND HE GOES AWAY AS INCONSPICUOUSLY AS HE ARRIVED, NO PARTICULAR SIGNIFICANCE SHOULD BE ATTACHED TO HIS BEING HERE. FURTHERMORE, IF HE IS DRINKING AS HEAVILY AS CLAIMED HE UNLIKELY PLAY ROLE IN LOCAL POLITICS.

3. WE REPORT ABOVE FOR BI RECORD AND BENEFIT OF ALGEROLOGISTS.

4. SUBSEQUENT TO DRAFTING ABOVE, I PASSED INFORMATION IN PARA 1 TO FRENCH AMBASSADOR DE COMMINES, WHO IMMEDIATELY ASKED ME WHERE BELKACEM HAD BEEN DURING THE INTERVAL. I SAID WE HAD IMPRESSION HE HAD BEEN IN FRANCE. DE COMMINES  
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SAID THAT POSSIBLE, BUT IT WAS NEWS TO HIM. FRENCH WERE NOT

FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES OF ALGERIAN EXILES ALL THAT CLOSELY.  
ALGERIANS HAD EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT TWO ONLY: ZBIRI AND  
CAID AHMAD. FRENCH WERE OBSERVING THEIR MOVEMENTS, BUT  
NOT THOSE OF OTHER EXILES.PARKER

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## Message Attributes

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**Concepts:** POLITICAL LEADERS  
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